

for it. Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating Mr. Bert Berkley and expressing our gratitude to his incredible dedication to both the industry and our community.

RECOGNIZING THE PIERCE COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM'S COMMITMENT AND SERVICE TO THE SOUTH PUGET SOUND REGION OF WASHINGTON STATE

HON. DEREK KILMER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the employees and leadership of the Pierce County Library System, recipients of the 2013 National Medal for Museum and Library Science. This is the highest honor that our nation bestows upon libraries and museums. The library system has served Pierce County with steadfast dedication for over 60 years. This award is well-deserved.

The Pierce County Library System operates 18 libraries, and serves the county's diverse readership of over 555,000 residents. The library system has seen a continuous rise in the number of residents that rely on the accessibility of the library and its ancillary services.

For five consecutive years the Pierce County Library System has faced major budget reductions. Despite this, the Pierce County Library System has found innovative solutions to continue providing excellent services to the community.

Mr. Speaker, the library system's pioneering research informed their decision to implement one of Washington State's first non-Dewey Decimal systems. It was an immediate success—in the first four hours, 780 visitors checked out 1,566 items.

The library system's flagship Early Literacy Program has produced outstanding results in the community. Library staff continue to work with many partners, including the Pierce County Health Department and Child Care Aware of Tacoma/Pierce County, in developing successful curriculum and services to provide caregivers and parents with tools and training to help children prepare for school. Early learning is vital to eliminating the preparation gap and ensuring that every child has the building blocks and resources they need to achieve in school and in life.

As I close, I can say with confidence that our community is a better place thanks to the careful thought, innovation, and dedication of the Pierce County Library System. I am pleased to recognize the service of the dedicated employees and leadership of the Pierce County Library System today in the United States Congress.

HONORING ANGELA KREPS

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize a special member of my staff. After more than six years of serv-

ice, Angela Kreps will be leaving her post in my Kansas City District Office.

Angela began working in my campaign office, then joined the District staff in 2005. She has filled many roles in the office including caseworker, staff assistant, and field representative.

Most recently serving as a caseworker, Angela is known for her patience and kindness in dealing with constituents. Whether it is listening to a veteran's retelling of war stories, helping a bride-to-be get her passport renewed, or assisting a single-mother in dealing with the IRS, Angela's experience and listening ear can put constituents at ease.

I have received many letters of thanks for the outstanding constituent service Angela has provided. Her professionalism and dedication to serving my constituents was a great example of how government should work. While I am losing a valuable member of my team, I am excited for Angela to begin the next chapter of her career.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in thanking Angela Kreps for her many years of service to the people of the Sixth Congressional District. I know Angela's colleagues, family and friends join with me in thanking her for her commitment to others and wishing her best of luck in all her endeavors and many years of success to come.

COMMEMORATING THE 80TH BIRTHDAY OF LONG-TIME PUBLIC SERVANT, CONGRESSMAN SID MORRISON

HON. DOC HASTINGS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, May 13, to commemorate the 80th birthday of Congressman Sid Morrison, who for more than 50 years and counting has served our nation and the great state of Washington as a public servant. Sid's career has represented results-oriented government, bipartisanship and service to all with integrity and honor.

His service began in 1966 when he was elected as a Washington state legislator, serving in the House until 1974, when he was elected to the Washington State Senate and served until 1980. During his time as a Washington legislator, he developed a reputation for taking on tough issues and reaching past politics to find bipartisan answers.

In 1980, at the age of 47, he was elected to this great body and served in the U.S. Congress for 12 years, from 1981 to 1993. As a Member of the House, Sid worked on many issues including energy, water, forestry, agricultural markets and immigration. As a leader in Congress, he worked to ensure reliable energy supplies to support the energy needs of the nation, science and space research, advanced technology and providing the nation with a strong defense. Sid's congressional service also saw him as an advocate for civil rights, small businesses, people in need of organ donations, and the wide variety of needs of every citizen seeking help with the federal bureaucracy.

Throughout his many endeavors since serving in Congress, Sid has been actively in-

involved in federal policies to make Washington and our nation better for all citizens.

He was appointed as Washington State Secretary of Transportation in 1993 and served until 2001. In that post, Sid spearheaded work for safer roads, new ferries to make Washington the nation's largest fleet, the rebirth of freight and passenger rail, transit expansion and airport improvements.

During the last 10 years, Sid has worked on special projects for Washington governors and continues to serve on many public boards. He has been a leading voice on behalf of public power and consumer-owned utility service in Washington state through his work as the chair of the Energy Northwest Executive Board. He also serves in the water, agriculture and education arenas including: on the Yakima Basin Storage Alliance, Board Chair; on the State Fair Park Board; and the Central Washington University Board of Trustees Chair.

Despite all the above, he is officially retired, but don't tell Sid that, as many of us seem to be moving in slow motion next to him.

I have personal and professional respect and admiration for Sid. As he celebrates his 80th birthday, I wish him happiness and good health and my best wishes.

IN TRIBUTE TO DR. MARTHA MCLEOD

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Martha McLeod and to celebrate her distinguished career in advance of her upcoming retirement as president of Asnuntuck Community College in Enfield, Connecticut.

Under Dr. McLeod's leadership, Asnuntuck Community College has maintained a strong commitment to eastern Connecticut's students. Through the school's professional programs such as manufacturing technology and allied health, students have developed skills that have matched the needs of local employers. Asnuntuck's transfer programs have prepared students to continue their education at Connecticut's world class four year universities and colleges. Dr. McLeod's administrative and leadership expertise have guided many students to rewarding careers in growing fields throughout the state.

Throughout her career, Dr. McLeod has advanced opportunities and the quality of education in Native American communities across the country. She was the founding president of Bay Mills Community College, a tribal college, in the upper peninsula of Michigan. Dr. McLeod has also applied her expertise at the national level, by serving as an evaluator for tribal programs for the Department of Education and the Department of Labor. Dr. McLeod has also served on the President's advisory board for the White House Initiative on Tribal Colleges and Universities.

Highly engaged in the local business community and committed to economic growth, Dr. McLeod is an active member of Rotary International and serves on the Board of the North Central Connecticut Chamber of Commerce (NCCCC). She also serves on the Economic